

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

DATE 1-4-89

FULL NAME Vincent M. Guerra SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER [REDACTED]
(No initials if you can possibly get full name)
ADDRESS WEST JEFFERSON CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION AL
[REDACTED] BESSEMER, AL 35023
CITY BESSEMER STATE AL ZIP CODE 35023

DATE OF BIRTH 06/07/63 (This is important and should be exact)

APPROXIMATE AGE _____ (To be used ONLY when date of birth is not known)

RELIGION UNKNOWN NATIONALITY US BORN IN RUTLAND, VT
[REDACTED]OCCUPATION CURRENTLY IS AN INMATE. WAS A YOUTH WORKEREDUCATION UNKNOWN BEYOND HIGH SCHOOLWEIGHT APPROX 165 HEIGHT APPROX 5'10" RACE HISPANIC DESCENTCOLOR OF HAIR BLACK COLOR OF EYES BROWN

OUTSTANDING CHARACTERISTICS OR INTERESTS _____

MARRIED OR SINGLE SINGLE CHILDREN _____NAME OF SPOUSE N/A (Number, ages, and names, if possible)

SCOUTING CONNECTIONS:

UNIT #	CITY	STATE	POSITION	DATE REGISTERED	DATE RESIGNED
<u>30</u>	<u>BHAM</u>	<u>AL</u>	<u>SM</u>	<u>1986</u>	<u>1987</u>

SPECIAL RECOGNITION EAGLE SCOUT

SUSPENDED OR, DENIED REGISTRATION FOR FOLLOWING REASONS:

SPECIFY THE FACTS WHICH LEAD YOU TO RECOMMEND DENIAL OF REGISTRATION AND LIST ATTACHED SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS (STATE ONLY KNOWN FACTS, NOT RUMOR, CONJECTURE OR SPECULATION):

CONFIDENTIAL

AN 201989

F. STARON

RS-509

4/14/83-nah

NOTED

FEB 24 '89

JOSEPH I. ANGLIM

Signed

SCOUT EXECUTIVE

Council

CONF016659

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

Birmingham Area Council



James D. Tinker
Scout Executive

READY FOR FILE

January 5, 1989

FEB 28 1989

Personal and Confidential

Mr. Paul Ernst
Director, Registration Service
Boy Scouts of America
Post Office Box 151019
Irving, Texas 75015-2019

Dear Paul:

Recently, our council Youth Protection Committee met and reviewed three **SUBJECT: VINCENT M. GUERRA** related to volunteer leadership in our council. I am writing to inform you of the pertinent facts related to each of these situations and the recommendations of our committee. For your information, this committee is comprised of two attorneys and one retired Judge.

- 1) Enclosed you will find a memorandum from Carl Rice, a Field Director in our sent concerning the above Scoutmaster to a former volunteer by the name of Vincent M. Guerra. Mr. Guerra is now on our permanent staff as a staff member by the Department of Youth Services (a correctional facility for youths). Mr. Guerra served as a volunteer leader with a special scout troop for youth offenders at the Oakville campus. You will note from my letter to Warden Nagle that Mr. Guerra is now serving time in the West Jefferson Correctional Institution for vehicular homicide and sodomy. His Social Security number is [REDACTED]. Mr. Guerra is no longer registered with our council; and it is the recommendation of our committee that you place him on the Confidential List to prevent him from becoming involved in the future.
- 2) On January 23, 1988, I wrote you concerning a rumor we had heard that a Mr. Dale L. Cook was under investigation by the Department of Human Resources for alleged child abuse. For the past twelve months, I have made numerous attempts to get the Department of Human Resources of Alabama to confirm or deny the rumor. They have refused to return my



Serving Jefferson and Shelby Counties

CONF016660

calls or answer my letters related to this topic. You may recall that I mentioned that I had met with the Pastor and a member of the Troop Committee; and, although they did not believe there was any truth to the rumors, they verified the fact that [REDACTED] had experienced emotional problems and attempted suicide. They asked that I not give him a letter putting him out of the program. They felt it would be a major tragedy for him and assured me that they would prevent any further involvement on his part. Recently, I was able to secure a criminal check on Mr. Cook; and according to a very reliable source, he has never been arrested for any crime. You have written suggesting that I present a letter to Mr. Cook refusing to allow his registration. However, it is the recommendation of our council committee that, due to the lack of evidence and our inability to secure any evidence to support any of the rumors, we not take action to place Mr. Cook on the Confidential List. We will continue to monitor the situation locally.

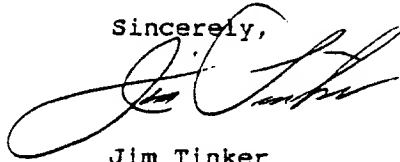
- 3). On December 7, 1988 I received a phone call from an individual that identified himself as [REDACTED], who stated that he would like to report an alleged incident of sex molestation by a Scout leader. He stated that approximately 5 years ago while in Boy Scout Troop 41, his Scoutmaster at that time, Mr. Robert Nichols, had sexually molested him. He stated that he would be willing to sign a statement to that effect; and although he no longer lived in the Birmingham area, he would visit Birmingham over the Christmas holidays and would meet with me at 2:00 p.m. on December 21, 1988 to provide details and sign a statement. I checked the unit history file and verified that there was a [REDACTED] registered with Troop 41 in 1983 and that Mr. Robert Nichols was the Scoutmaster at that time. I shared information related to the report with Jim Wilson in the Regional Office. [REDACTED] did not keep his scheduled appointment. During the past two weeks, I have attempted to contact [REDACTED] by phone on numerous occasions and have been unsuccessful. I have verified with the Troop Committee that Mr. Nichols has not been active with the troop for the past three years. When I contacted troop committee member, Charles Silliman, by phone to verify the status of Mr. Nichols' involvement, he guessed the reason I had called and wanted to know if [REDACTED] was still trying to cause trouble for Robert Nichols." He stated that [REDACTED] had made those accusations many years ago and they had been investigated by the Troop Committee; and he was convinced that there was no substance to the accusations. He stated that, in his opinion, [REDACTED] was a trouble maker and that if the Boy Scouts were to take [REDACTED] word and attempt to put Mr. Nichols out of the program that he and several other people would resign.

Mr. Paul Ernst
Page 3
January 5, 1989

In light of the lack of evidence and the fact that Mr. Nichols is no longer active in the program, the committee recommends that we take no action against Mr. Nichols unless additional information is provided at some point in the future.

If you have any questions about these situations or actions our council committee plans to take, please don't hesitate to call.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Jim Tinker", with a large, sweeping initial "J" and a stylized "T".

Jim Tinker
Scout Executive

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cc: E. M. Friend, Jr.
David J. Vann
G. Ross Bell
James W. Shepherd
Robert C. Holt
James D. Wilson

CONF016662

December 7, 1988

TO: Jim Tinker, Scout Executive

FROM: Carl Rice, Field Director

Vincent Guerra, SSAN [REDACTED] who may be an Eagle Scout, was a staff member of the Wilderness Program at the Department of Youth Services Chalkville Campus. He served as Scoutmaster of Troop 30 which was then chartered to that facility.

It has been reported to me that Mr. Guerra was discharged following allegations of sexual molestation of one or more youth members in that program. My source cannot go on record on this. I was told that DYS wanted to press charges against Mr. Guerra, but their legal advisors felt that there was not enough evidence to make any charges stick. He was let go. His folder was noted so that he would not be able to go into youth work if he gave them as a reference, and he would not be employed by any state agency.

I heard that he may have found employment with "the Boy Scouts in Huntsville" as a canoeing instructor. Perhaps he got on camp staff in the Tennessee Valley Council. We should check that out.

I was recently informed that Mr. Guerra is an inmate at the West Jefferson Correctional Institute. My source told me that he was convicted of vehicular homicide and second degree sodomy, the latter charge involving a minor.

I called the West Jefferson Correctional Institute. A Mrs. Robinson there confirmed that a Vincent Guerra is an inmate there. She could not give me any further information over the telephone. She suggested that I write the warden to get further information.

A copy of that letter is attached.

I have found out that Mr. Guerra was born in Rutland, Vermont. At one time he was employed at the Mount Norris Scout Reservation in Eden, Vermont. He is a graduate of Rutland Senior High School.

That is the extent of what I have been able to gather to date. We will know more upon receipt of the warden's reply.

Respectively submitted,

Carlton R. Rice 12/7/88
Carlton R. Rice

December 12, 1988

Personal and Confidential

Warden J. E. Nagle
West Jefferson Correctional Institution
[REDACTED]
Bessemer, Alabama 35023

Dear Warden Nagle:

The Boy Scouts of America is proud of its record of over seventy-eight years of service to the youth and families of America. Occasionally, however, we are made aware of a situation where someone could take advantage of their position in Scouting.

Information has come to us that Mr. Vincent Guerra, SSAN [REDACTED], a former Scoutmaster, has been convicted of a vehicular homicide and second degree sodomy. If true, we must take steps to see that Mr. Guerra does not affiliate himself with the Boy-Scouts of America upon his release. We do not want to be unfair to any innocent persons; therefore, we would appreciate your help if you could confirm the following information:

1. Is the Vincent Guerra in your facility the same as the one who formerly served on staff of the Department of Youth Services Chalkville Campus?
2. Does your inmate's Social Security Account Number match the one above?
3. Of what crime(s) was Mr. Guerra convicted?
4. What is the length of his sentence? What is his expected release date?

We must protect our youth members and keep undesirable people out of Scouting. We would appreciate your help in this matter. Any information you provide will be used internally and treated strictly confidential.

Sincerely,

Jim Tinker
Scout Executive

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STATE OF ALABAMA
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

West Jefferson Correctional Facility

[REDACTED]
Bessemer, Alabama 35023
December 16, 1988

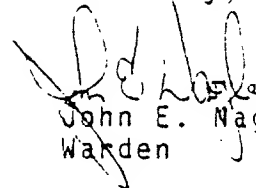
Jim Tinker
Scout Executive
Boy Scouts of America
Birmingham Area Council
[REDACTED]
Birmingham, Alabama 35222

Dear Mr. Tinker:

I am in receipt of your letter dated December 12, 1988 wherein you request information about inmate Vincent Guerra. Inmate Guerra received a 5 year sentence on July 28, 1988 for Vehicular Homocide and Sodomy. This is the only information I am able to furnish you.

If I can be of any assistance to you in the future, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,


John E. Nagle
Warden

JEN/bh

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